

THE CAPE WEEKLY TRIBUNE

AND THE CAPE COUNTY HERALD

Every Friday by

THE CAPE GIRARDEAU PUBLISHING COMPANY.

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AT THE POST OFFICE AT CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., PENDING.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

FOUR MORE DAYS TILL X-MAS

There are but four days remaining until this city gives a Municipal Christmas festival for the needy. The indications are that it will be a spectacle never before witnessed by Cape Girardeau. The ladies, as well as the men who are working unceasingly for the movement, have acquitted themselves with credit. It has been a big task, but it has been well done.

There will, of course, be many additional contributions before Christmas Eve, the night when the tree will be illuminated and the presents awarded. Information at hand indicates that about \$150 more will be necessary to give all of the unfortunate poor in this city a Christmas remembrance and a basket of food. But this sum will be secured.

Those who expect to contribute and have not yet made their donations, should do so as early as possible. The food and presents that are to be purchased must be bought within the next few days in order that they may be prepared for delivery on Christmas Eve.

The entertainment at the tree will rival any ever arranged by the great Christmas festival held annually in St. Louis. Mrs. A. H. Hinchey, a trained musician, has selected a fitting program which will be carried out by a great chorus of little girls and boys. The tree and the entertainment will be spectacular enough to please a city of several hundred thousand, but Cape Girardeau has planned and will give more.

There will not be a poor family in this city who will not have abundance, both in food and clothing this year. Such a display of generosity is a monument to any city, and it places Cape Girardeau in a class by itself for a town of this size.

When Cape Girardeau sits down to its Christmas feast this year, there will not be a vacant chair or a table that is empty. There will not be a single child without toys and there will not be a widow in sorrow for lack of food or clothing for her brood. Old Santa Claus has been good to a great many of us a long, long time, but he will be partial to none this year.

FOREIGN DEMAND FOR FOODSTUFFS.

Exports of foodstuffs for November show an increase of 300 per cent compared with the exports of November last year, according to figures compiled in Washington.

The increase of exports is attributed principally to the European war. While there was a tremendous decrease in the amount of cotton sent abroad, there were enormous increases in shipments of meat, cattle, corn, oats, flour and wheat. There was a big decrease in the exports of illuminating and lubricating oils, but there was an increase in every article of food.

The exports of corn, which amounted to only \$333,903 in November, 1913, leaped to \$1,759,109 in November of the present year. Oats increased from \$1,150 to \$3,900,174; wheat jumped from \$3,000,000 to \$11,353,388, and fresh beef from \$23,761 to \$1,353,388. These are some of the most remarkable gains. There was a big increase in all other food products.

The figures shown in these figures is that the American farmer may be reasonably sure of a market for all the food products that can be grown in the coming year. For some years exports of such products have been declining and so much that there was no demand for them abroad, but now they are needed at home to feed the rapidly increasing population. Now that there is a great need of food supplies in Europe the farmers of the United States can be no mistake in growing a bumper crop of cereals in 1915.

WE FORGET THE OLD SONGS?

According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the "high-brows" in Boston have been neglecting the old melodies, but it will require more than that to keep the old folk-lore songs from the public mind. These negro melodies will live long after the present generation has passed on.

The songs which the "high-brows" of Boston are trying to forget, have brought a tender sentimentality to the negro. These melodies come back to us over wasted years, over the dreary deserts of experience, back across the countless miles, hallowed by associations and of affectionate recollections.

Such songs as "Old Black Joe," "Way Down Upon the Swanee River," "Old Uncle Ned," "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," "Watermelon Smilin' on the Vine," and a score of others just as reminiscent of other days are banished. Can we forget them? Not in a lifetime, even if we wanted to.

We may just as well try to drive from us the gentler instincts as to erase from our minds the pretty sentiments that are attached to those songs. "Old Folks at Home" will appeal to those who come after we have crumbled into dust just as it has to us. It was handed down to those who live in this generation as a cherished and hallowed heritage, one that is associated with the innocent dreams of childhood, and mellowed by the chattering hand of time.

As we look back over memory's dim horizon, there are but a few things that are not forgotten. Childhood and old friends are linked together, and these with the scenes and songs that were familiar then make up the most cherished part of youth. Take from this the darkey folk-lore songs and childhood is robbed of a virtue as sweet as the aroma in the rose and as pure as the meadow after the summer shower.

TONIGHT IS XMAS TREE NIGHT.

The Municipal Christmas tree is tonight. The city has given liberally to make the poor glad, and tomorrow will be the happiest Christmas day in all the history of this ancient city. With the wants of all the needy satisfied, even though only temporarily, this should be a day of glad rejoicing.

The army of ladies who have contributed their splendid efforts to bring joy to the needy, have well earned the grateful remembrance of the poor and won the everlasting gratitude of the city as a whole.

There has not been a drone among either of the committees selected by the Mayor, and while those who were unable to devote as much time to the project as others did, they did all they could and that was good enough.

It is always a blessing to give to charity, but at Christmas time it seems more like a solemn obligation. Cape Girardeau has truly distinguished itself this year. There probably isn't another city in the world that has given more liberally, according to population, than Cape Girardeau.

A municipal Christmas tree is a big undertaking, but it was not too big for Cape Girardeau. The celebration tonight is the first of its kind ever attempted by the people of this city, and it is to be hoped that it will be an event long remembered by those who give as well as receive.

If the weather is inclement, the pageant will be marred somewhat, but a riot of the elements could not destroy the festival. A basket, heaped with good things to eat, will be presented to every family whose home is now without Christmas cheer. A stocking filled with toys and candies will be presented to every child that witnesses tonight's spectacle.

No one can afford to miss the celebration at the Court House tonight, because it is going to usher in the merriest merry Christmas that this city ever saw. It is your duty to be present.

America's apple crop, at a reasonable estimate this year will approximate 50,000,000 barrels. This sized crop would furnish one-half barrel, or 150 apples, for each member of our population. More Baldwin apples are produced in the United States than any other variety, and the Ben Davis is a close second.

H. G. Wells, the English writer, says that the Zeppelin airships have proven a complete failure. That's the reason the people of London are going about in fear and trembling. It is their way of showing regret that the Zeppelins are such a failure as Mr. Wells says they are.

SHORTEST DAY SLIPS IN AND CITIZENS SKID

Many Fall on Ice and Three Persons Are Seriously Hurt.

ONE MAN GOES DOWN STEEP EMBANKMENT

Lee Lyon is Taken to Hospital Unconscious—Bohnsack and Policeman Hurt.

Yesterday was the shortest day of the year and incidentally the first day of winter, according to the almanac. It slipped in and out in about nine and a half hours, and a number of citizens slipped on the ice before the day was done.

The sun came up at 7:15 and went down at 4:42. This city was coated with ice to greet the rising sun, and there was enough ice to skid on when the shortest day of the year passed into history.

The days will now begin to get longer at the rate of about two minutes per day. This will be continued until June 21, the longest day in the year.

A score of people fell on the ice yesterday and at least three were injured. Patrolman Arthur Whitener, while alighting from a street car on West Good Hope, fell and severely wrenched his left shoulder.

He placed his hands in his pockets just as he stepped to the ground, and an instant later, he slipped and fell to the ground with a thump. The weight of his body fell upon his left arm, straining the elbow and shoulder. He bandaged his injuries, but was able to continue on his beat throughout the night.

William H. Bohnsack, Sr., slipped and fell in the court house yard, splitting his left ear badly. He was just ascending the second tier of steps when he stepped upon a layer of ice and fell upon the granite. The caridge of the ear was severed, the gash extending almost two inches. Several stitches were taken in the injured member and a large bump on the rear of his head was treated by a physician.

Lee Lyon, a former resident of the Cape, is at the hospital suffering from injuries which he received when he slipped and fell down the steep embankment at William and Lorimer streets. He was walking west on William street when he slipped on the ice and before he could find his equilibrium, he skidded over the edge of the walk and down the steep precipice.

The momentum carried him down the embankment at a terrific pace and when he reached the bottom he struck an obstruction which rendered him unconscious. A pedestrian, who witnessed the accident, summoned Dr. John St. Avit and Dr. J. D. Porterfield, Jr., who took the injured man to the police station, but owing to the fact that there were not accommodations there for offering him treatment, Mayor Kage ordered him sent to the St. Francis hospital.

When Dr. St. Avit reached the injured man, he was still unconscious, but he partially identified him as Lee Lyon. When Lyon was a boy he was badly burned on his hip by lime, and in order to make the identification positive, Dr. St. Avit asked that he be disrobed and examined. This was done and the scars made by the lime were plainly in evidence.

A short time later, Lyon regained consciousness and confirmed the physician's identification. He said the accident occurred so suddenly that he could not describe how it happened. He said he was walking west on William street when he fell. What happened after that he was unable to explain. It is presumed that in falling his head struck the paved walk, rendering him unconscious. While he bore no serious injury that could be detected by the physicians last night, he will be kept at the hospital until today and maybe longer.

Lyon reached the city on a visit only two days ago. He moved his residence from the Cape several years ago.

REPUDIATES CONFESSION SHE KILLED AGED SPINSTER

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—Mrs. Caroline Becker, the aged woman accused murdering and robbing her friends and neighbor, Miss Frances Bomholt, a spinster, more than 60 years old, denied her guilt when arraigned yesterday and declared that the confession which she is alleged to have made to the police was false and that it was forced from her.

DIVERSION CHANNEL WORK BEGINS SOON

Drainage Men Hold Meeting and Make Final Plan for Installing Machinery

The monthly meeting of the supervisors of the Little River Drainage District was held yesterday afternoon in the H. & H. Building.

The meeting was for the purpose of passing upon and authorizing the payment of bills for the previous month, including pay for the work under the contracts.

After finishing the routine business, the Board took up matters with contractors who have not yet begun work on their contracts, and with the parties who have bargained for the bonds through their representatives who were present at the meeting.

While nothing definite was reached concerning the disposition of the bonds, the impression prevailed that the bonds would be readily marketable within a short time, and that money could be obtained by the use of the bonds as collateral or that they could be sold outright, and that in all events the drainage work would not be delayed, and that the undertaking will be completed within the time originally contemplated.

Final arrangements were made for the immediate installation of the new machinery on the Diversion Channel. Work is expected to begin February and one machine will be on the grounds ready to assemble within the next two days.

PROGRESS MADE IN GOOD ROAD WORK

Otto Kochitzky Says Jackson Road Gravel Would Reduce Benefits of Oil.

The reports offered at the monthly meeting of the Cape Township Special Road District, held yesterday afternoon in the office of Otto Kochitzky, indicate great progress in the work of improvement and development of highways in this particular section of the county.

It was shown that recent work has been devoted mostly to the Bloomfield road which is now in good condition, except for dragging, and all arrangements have been made to look after that feature as soon as the weather will permit.

Mr. Kochitzky, who is one of the officers in the district, and who is deeply interested in bringing the country roads to the highest standard, in an interview with a Tribune representative, said:

"We have been trying to suggest to the automobile club that with their support we would be able to oil the Jackson road next year, but we have found by a test that the benefit of oiling on the loosely gravelled road is not very great, except to reduce dust, and we are inclined to believe that the expenditure of money for that purpose would be extravagant.

"We may be willing to contribute a part of the cost of oiling the road but have concluded it is hardly justifiable for us to spend the whole amount. We find that oil is best for a road built with an asphalt binder, and we cannot afford that on a country road.

"We intend to improve the rock levee road during this month, and will probably do some new road work next month.

"Some attention will also be given to the streets of the city connecting with the county roads."

The officers in charge of the District work are T. H. Lewis, Otto Kochitzky, and F. W. Bertling. Dennis Seivaly, county highway engineer, is also employed by the district and was present with the three officials at the meeting held yesterday.

MAN HAD LETTER ASKING MISS WILSON TO WED HIM

Boston, Dec. 23.—Letters containing proposals of marriage to Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of President Woodrow Wilson, and to Miss M. Watson, daughter of Congressman Watson of Georgia, were found on Emil L. Gerardi of Zeta, Mo., who searched.

Gerardi, who is 35 years old, said he was cold and hungry and behaved strangely.

TRUST COMPANY'S TAXES ARE REDUCED

Bank Has Been Erroneously Assessed on \$217,107.10—Council Relieves it.

Taxes on property aggregating \$27,107.10 which have been erroneously assessed against the Southeast Missouri Trust Company were ordered discontinued by the City Council last night. The assessment was made on stock held by the Trust Company in Sturdivant bank the Benton Bank and the Scott County Bank.

This excessive amount was erroneously given to the assessor by the petitioner after it had been assessed against the different banks by which the stock was issued, R. B. Oliver, the company's attorney, told the council.

Senator Oliver addressed the council in behalf of the Trust Company, and in explaining the error, stated: "Last April Mr. Miller, the president of the Southeast Missouri Trust Company died, and for sometime before that had been practically unable to transact business.

"No successor was appointed until last June when the Board elected Mr. Deal. He came into the office and discovered that the mistake had been made.

"The stock of the Sturdivant Bank the Benton Bank and the Scott County Bank are all assets of the Southeast Missouri Trust Co., and all of these stocks are given in by these banks themselves, and to have them taxed again would be unjust, and would be double taxation."

Upon motion of Councilman Kneass the petition was received and the prayer granted.

A petition filed by Otto Kochitzky asking the reduction of \$25,000 from the tax lists, representing dredges and other property not legally taxable in the State of Missouri.

Senator Thomas F. Lane appeared in behalf of the petitioner, and stated that his request was something similar to the one presented by Senator Oliver, except that it was merely an erroneous assessment in toto. He stated that the assessor insisted in putting it on the list and Mr. Kochitzky forgot about it. Mr. Lane said that the property is situated in the State of Arkansas and was taxed in that state.

Upon motion the petition was received and the request granted.

Upon motion of Councilman Kneass the clerk was instructed to request the Water & Light Company to place a light on Frederick street at the corner of Maple and Walnut, instead of at Elm and Ranney as was first ordered.

Attorney Edward Drum appeared in behalf of Ella Wall Ridney and Ella Drum whose remonstrance against the contemplated improvements on Middle street was read.

In support of his contention, Mr. Drum stated that there was nothing in the plans and specifications offered by the city engineer to show the established grade as formerly adopted and that the property owners have a way of knowing how much their property will be damaged by changing the grade. He also stated that there was nothing to indicate the grade nor the length of the sidewalk.

City Engineer Stiver, in response to Mr. Drum's contentions, stated there had never been a grade established until the present time, and that there had been no change in the grade. He also said that if the attorney did not know how to read the drawing as he had prepared them, he had no business to meddle with the work. Mr. Drum then replied that an engineer should be able to make drawings that could be understood. Mayor Kage was compelled to reprimand both men for which they both subsided. Upon motion the petition was referred to the Street & Wharf Committee.

The International Shoe Co., presented a remonstrance against changing the grade of Spanish street, claiming that it would increase the volume of water in Pearl street, and that it would empty on the factory grounds.

The matter was referred to the Street & Wharf Committee.

A report showing that a large number of hydrants in the city were in bad condition, was read to the council and the clerk was instructed to notify the Missouri Public Utilities Co., that they must be repaired within thirty days.

It was ordered that the street commissioner be instructed to build a fence along the embankment on William street from Lorimer to the railroad.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITOL

"A Vanishing Race."

Washington, Dec. 22.—Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane, is going to give the Indians a chance to become something of consequence on their own account. His plan is, to make the Indian a full-fledged citizen, and to turn him loose to work out his own salvation. The idea in our government that the Red Man must be kept on his own reservation, handed out his rations, and kept constantly under the thumb of the government is to be made obsolete, according to Mr. Lane, and he declares that "the orphan asylum idea" must be abandoned. The Secretary proposes to take a few Indians each year from the different tribes and make each stand on his own feet. It may be a long road to make "good Indians" out of live tribesmen, but Lane never found any job too big, and since we have waited three hundred years to find out what to do with the Indians, it is refreshing to find a man at last who has the authority, and is willing to exercise it, in an effort to make real men and women out of these wards. Mr. Lane says that "our hope lies in schools for the young and in casting more and more responsibility upon the matured, and letting them accept the results." He adds that "the man who can do for himself is the man to be released." One cannot read Secretary Lane's report, which takes up great internal questions, including conservation, without a full conviction that President Wilson has a real statesman in charge of the Interior Department.

Neutrality at Panama.

Colonel Goethals at Panama, sent shivers through the Washington government when he asked for two submarines to preserve neutrality at the Canal. The newly elected legislature of California is pledged to pass drastic legislation aimed against the Japanese, and the yellow men have shown in their attacks upon German possessions that they are spoiling for a fight. Our weakness is at Panama, and the Japs know it. They are also fully advised as to what they are likely to get in the way of adverse legislation in California. Colonel Goethals has undoubtedly found the Japanese very annoying, and whatever other reason may be assigned his purpose has doubtless been to protect the Canal against them. The Washington government is trying to get ahead of California by passing a general immigration bill that will cover the Japanese question, and which at the same time will not be offensive to the Mikado's Empire.

Prohibition and Suffrage.

The Democratic leaders in Congress by letting down the gates so that the prohibition and suffrage questions may be voted on, express a confidence that they have plucked the thorn from the side of the Democratic party. The leaders among the Democrats told their individual members to "go it for themselves," and the result has been comforting to the party, but rather disquieting to individuals. The same condition has applied equally to the Republican membership. It is expected that the partisans of these two questions will now give more attention to killing off individual statesmen, instead of throwing javelins at party organizations.

Investigations That Do Not Enthusias.

Senator Robinson insists that the report from Mexico that the Caranza government paid to United States Senators \$75,000 to bring about the withdrawal of United States troops, should be investigated. The Senate never has taken the report seriously, and Senator Smoot thinks it should be treated as so much "piffle." Senator Norris is insisting upon an investigation of the Pennsylvania primaries, and he wants to get at the truth of the stories that cartloads of money were poured into the campaign to elect Mr. Penrose. The Senate does not take kindly to this suggestion, either, a sit is rather against the precedent of things to investigate a winner. Still, this thing was done in the cases of Senators Stephenson and Lorimer, and the latter walked the plank in consequence of having been found guilty.

America's Shipments of Sinews of War.

Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska and Representative Bartholdt of Missouri have introduced bills in Congress mak-

ing it unlawful for business concerns in the United States to contract or ship to any nation at war, any class of ammunition, arms or armament. In line with this same theory that in order to maintain strict neutrality the United States should not permit its institutions to supply the sinews of war, Charles M. Schwab, president of the Bethlehem Steel Company, has acceded to the request of President Wilson and Secretary of State Bryan, and has cancelled an order from Great Britain to furnish twenty submarines at a net cost of \$850,000 each. American manufacturers have been meeting tremendous demands from the European nations for war supplies and equipment. All these shipments have gone to the Allies, since Germany has been inaccessible to our ships. And while unwittingly, our aid has been a great boon to the Allies, Great Britain has been a perfect pirate in its interference with American shipping interests, and has overhauled most of the cargoes originating in the United States, and in many instances has prevented delivery of shipments on the general supposition that they were "suspicious." The advocates of the "Hatchcock and Bartholdt measures declare that some sort of legislation of this kind is essential, and they hold out that this is quite necessary for the Congress to pass some such law in order to more fully protect and establish the neutrality which our government wishes to obtain.

A Substitute for "Tipperary."

Josephus the First, Lord of the American Admiralty, more familiarly known as the Secretary of the Navy, denies that he has forbidden the singing of that catchy air, "It's a Long Way to Tipperary"—and whether "Tipperary" is against neutrality or not it appears that a new jingle has been taken up by the middies. Try it on the melodeon:

"Sister Susie's Sewing Shirts for Soldiers."

Such Skill at Sewing Shirts our Shy Young Soldier Susie Shows, Some Soldiers Send Epistles, Say they'd Sooner Sleep on Thistles Than the Saucy, Soft, Short Shirts for Soldiers, Sister Susie Sew.

Forcing Oranges to Be Good.

The Agricultural Department at Washington declares that oranges are not mature unless the juice contains soluble solids equal to more than 8 per cent of acid in the juice. Gentle reflection will likely produce an image of oranges that tasted like chips, but which from the exterior were all that could be desired. "The 'trick of the trade,' against which the federal institution has directed a bulletin, points out that by a process of sweating or exposure in warm, moist air, oranges are given the appearance of being O. K., where as they are in reality so far below what they should be that shipment in interstate commerce is being prohibited.

The Community Christmas Tree.

Last Christmas Eve a beautiful tree was placed immediately in front of the United States Capitol, and a Christmas festival was held on the Capitol plaza. It was the first recognition of the "Community Christmas Tree" idea, and it was so thoroughly appreciated by all who witnessed the gorgeous spectacle, that Vice President Marshall and Speaker Champ Clark, who control the plaza park, have consented to its use again this year. The "Community Christmas Tree" is a idea of one of the big Eastern cities, but it is so pretty a custom that large and small places all over the country are adopting it. Try it in your own town.

Now, Who Is Supposed to Read It?

Of course this is a big country, and it takes a lot of words and a lot of printing to keep the people informed as to the affairs of Agriculture. It is related that once upon a time a man who clamored for a big job was satisfied when set to work washing an elephant. This may have been a no larger task than to attempt to supply everybody with something to read but the Agricultural Department has come very close to doing it, since, according to the annual report of the Department 38,000,000 agricultural bulletins were distributed during the past fiscal year. The Superintendent of Documents sold 231,821 documents for \$21,708.76, and the rest of the bulletins were distributed free.

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD GAVE \$525,000 IN MISSOURI

Report Shows Washington University Got \$200,000 Conditional on Raising \$800,000 More.

New York, Dec. 23.—The fourth installment of the report of the General Education Board, founded by John D. Rockefeller, was issued today. The installment deals with conditional con-

tributions to colleges and universities, and shows that Missouri received donations totaling \$525,000 conditional on raising of additional sums.

Washington University is credited with \$200,000 conditional on raising \$800,000 more; Drury College, \$12,000 conditional on raising \$525,000; Wilham Jewell College, \$125,000 conditional on raising \$375,000; and Central College, \$75,000, conditional on raising \$225,000.